Fast Track Courts in Karnataka

560. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) when the Fast Track Court Scheme was launched?

(b) whether the above scheme has become functional in Karnataka;

(c) If so, the number of Fast Track Courts functioning in Karnataka;

(d) whether there is any proposal to set up more Fast Track Courts in Karnataka;

(e) the grant, if any, sanctioned to Karnataka during the year 2001-02 and 2002-03 for this purpose; and

(f) the number of long pending cases so far cleared by these Fast Track Courts in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) On the basis of the recommendations made by the Eleventh Finance Commission, the Fast Track Court Scheme was launched in August, 2000.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Out of the 13 Fast Track Courts notified by the Government of Karnataka, 10 Fast Track Courts are functioning in Karnataka.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) During the year 2001-02, an amount of Rs. 5.43 crore was released to Karnataka. Further, during the year 2002-03, an amount of Rs. 13.45 crore has been released to Karnataka so far under the Fast Track Courts scheme.

(f) As per information available, the Fast Track Courts in Karnataka have so far cleared 572 cases.

Recommendation of CJI or State CJ for elevation of Judges

561. SHRI B.P. SINGHAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of cases in which the recommendation of a State Chief Justice or Chief Justice of India made for elevation of a

person as the Judge of High Courts/Judge of Supreme Court has not been accepted by Government; and

(b) the details of such cases, alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) As per procedure, the recommendation of Chief Justices of High Courts for appointment of Judges is referred for the advice of the chief justice of India. During the last three years (2000, 2001 and 2002 till date) there has been no case where the Government has not accepted the recommendation of the Chief Justice of India.

(b) Does not arise.

Vacancy of Judges in Allahabad High Court

†562. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that posts of nearly 50 Judges were lying vacant in Allahabad High Court of Uttar Pradesh as on 31st October, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for not taking action to fill up the above mentioned vacancies; and

(d) by when Government will fill up all the vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) and (b) As against approved strength of 95 judges in the Allahabad High Court, 59 Judges were in position leaving 36 vacancies to be filled up as on October 31, 2002.

(c) and (d) After the Supreme Court Judgment of October 6, 1993, read with the Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998, the process of initiation of proposal for appointment of a Judge of a High Court lies with the Chief Justice of that High Court. The Government has, however, been requesting the Chief Justices of the High Courts, Chief Ministers and the Governors of the States, from time to time, including the Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court and the Chief Minister and Governor of Uttar Pradesh, to initiate proposals for filling up of the present and the vacancies

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.